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News Items from the School of Education of the University of Chicago

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO DINNER

The University of Chicago Dinner which is held each year in connection with the meeting of the Department of Superintendence of the National Education Association will be held at 6:30 P.M., Tuesday, February 24, 1920, in the Electrical League Dining-Room on the fourteenth floor of the Statler Hotel, Cleveland, Ohio.

This annual gathering of former students and alumni of the University has become increasingly popular and successful during recent years. It provides an excellent opportunity for students to meet former friends and classmates and to learn of the activities and developments at the University. A very interesting program is being organized. Members of the faculty will discuss recent developments in the University and progressive changes in the Department of Education. Students who have taken work in the Kindergarten-Primary Department will be interested to learn that Miss Alice Temple will be one of the speakers. Prominent alumni of the University will discuss topics of special interest to all former students. Mr. Matthew Willing, who received his Master's degree in 1916, is arranging a series of musical numbers for the evening's program.

A most cordial invitation is extended to all former students and alumni to attend the dinner. The price per plate is \$2.00. Please send reservations to the Alumni Committee of the School of Education as early as possible. Secure tickets at the desk of the Statler Hotel, Monday, February 23, or no later than 10:00 A.M., Tuesday, February 24.

AN ENGLISH VOCABULARY TEST

A test designed to measure the growth in English vocabulary of first-year pupils in the high school has been prepared by W. L. Carr and H. F. Scott of the Latin Department of the University High School. The test consists of fifty fairly difficult words of a

somewhat literary character, chosen largely from the reading materials covered in first-year English. Half of these words are derived from, or are etymologically related to, Latin words usually included in first-year Latin work. The remainder of the words are of non-Latin origin.

One object of the test is to determine how far the study of Latin functions as an aid in increasing and making more accurate the pupil's vocabulary in English. During the current year the test will be given twice to about two thousand pupils in various parts of the country in order to secure a measure of the progress which is made. A report of the results which were secured from a similar test was published in the October number of the *Classical Journal* under the title, "The English Vocabulary of the High School Freshman."

A SURVEY REPORT OF COMMERCIAL EDUCATION

No. 5 of Volume II of the Supplementary Educational Monographs is ready for distribution. It is entitled "A Survey of Commercial Education in the Public High Schools of the United States," by Leverett S. Lyon, instructor in the School of Commerce and Administration of the University of Chicago.

In the earlier sections of the monograph the following topics are discussed in detail: the kinds of commercial courses in public high schools, the length of such courses, the required subjects in each course, and the relative importance of technical and content subjects in commercial courses.

Inasmuch as the study is based on an investigation of commercial education in one hundred and thirty-six high schools in twenty-six different states, it is the most extensive study of its kind which has yet been made. Special consideration is given in the monograph to the social-business subjects. Such discussions are particularly appropriate in view of the increased importance, during recent years, to the business world of a thorough knowledge of commercial organization, economics, accounting, commercial law, and business organization.

One of the final chapters entitled "Plans and Policies in Secondary Commercial Work" discusses the significant needs of commercial education in a thoroughly constructive way. The monograph will prove very suggestive to superintendents and high-school principals who have supervision of commercial courses. It should be read by teachers of all phases of commercial education.